

that by passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.●

CYPRUS 28 YEARS OF OCCUPATION

● Mr. REED. Mr. President, I rise to call attention to the 28th anniversary of the Turkish invasion and occupation in the Republic of Cyprus.

In 1974, the Turkish Government sent 35,000 Turkish troops in two separate actions into Cyprus, ostensibly to put down a coup attempt against Cyprus President Makarios and to protect Turkish Cypriots. However, after taking over 36 percent of the northern part of the island, Turkish troops remained. This led to the Turkish Cypriots declaring their own government, the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus; a government only Turkey recognizes.

Since then, the United Nations has maintained a buffer zone between the two land areas. The U.N. Secretary General has called Cyprus "one of the most militarized regions of the world." Despite the U.N.'s presence and numerous attempts at settlement, there have been many tragic results of the Turkish intervention: nearly 200,000 Greek Cypriots have been displaced, over 1,000 Greek Cypriots and 4 Americans remain unaccounted for, over 400 Greek Cypriots remain enclaved in the occupied area, and the Turkish troop presence continues. For this and other reasons, I was proud to cosponsor S.C.R. 28, calling for a U.S. effort to end restrictions on the freedoms and human rights of the enclaved people in the occupied area of Cyprus.

We should be heartened that it appears that the settlement process may be making some progress. Talks between Cyprus President Clerides and Turkish Cypriot Leader Denktash began in January of 2002 under the auspices of the U.N., and although they missed the June deadline for settlement, they have continued their dialog.

The U.S. must remain committed to the settlement process. A durable, comprehensive settlement that addresses the legitimate concerns of both sides and promotes regional stability would benefit Cypress, the region, and U.S. interests. Cypress is an important partner and friend of the U.S. Most recently Cypress has cooperated in the fight against terrorism since September 11 and was of enormous help when it agreed to allow the 13 Palestinians in Bethlehem to stopover temporarily on their final destination in the EU.

On the anniversary of the day Cyprus was divided we must renew our efforts to promote measures aimed at reunification and designed to reduce tensions and promote peace between the two communities.●

TRIBUTE TO ALPHA COMPANY, 1ST BATTALION, 141ST INFANTRY

● Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, it is my distinct honor and privilege to

recognize the Texans from San Antonio. Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 141st Infantry, commanded by CPT Scott M. Mac Leod, distinguished themselves as a premier force protection unit in providing flawless security for one of the U.S. Army's chemical munitions stockpiles. Captain Mac Leod's Texas Army National Guard Unit was federalized in October 2001 and has provided force protection to a homeland security mission at Pine Bluff Arsenal, the only active Army installation within the State of Arkansas.

Soldiers of Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 141st Infantry headquartered in San Antonio, TX, along with other elements of the 141st Infantry Brigade were mobilized as part of President Bush's homeland defense initiative and the war on terrorism. Under the professional and effective leadership of CPT Scott Mac Leod, First Lieutenant Joaquin Campos and First Sergeant Jose Villarreal, the Chemical Site Defense Force surpassed their mission requirements from predeployment, through deployment, to postdeployment. During predeployment, these citizens quickly and selflessly assumed their role as full-time soldiers, and while deployed these soldiers braved the elements 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. All the while, the unit's morale remained high, and after 1 year, several soldiers volunteered for another year. This impressive accomplishment is particularly noteworthy since these citizen-soldiers were given a critical and extremely grueling assignment that kept them away from home for an entire year. When called on by their Commander in Chief, this proud group of Texans came to Arkansas, carved out defensive positions in the Arkansas wilderness, and put forth an inexhaustible effort toward the defense of our homeland. They literally have lived up to their motto, "Remember the Alamo."

It is with great pride that I have risen today to pay tribute to the more than 130 soldiers who make up the Texans from the Alamo. They have selflessly put their private lives on hold to answer the call of duty. Their presence at the Pine Bluff Arsenal has been a powerful deterrent to domestic terrorism and contributed immeasurably toward the domestic assurance of peace. The people of Arkansas are grateful for each soldier's dedication, and we are extremely proud to have had these great Americans as guests in our State over the last year. Alpha Company's remarkable performance in this critically important mission reflects great credit on the State of Texas and the U.S. Army.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

PERIODIC REPORT ON THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO SIERRA LEONE AND LIBERIA FROM JANUARY 18, THROUGH JULY 17, 2002—PM 105

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), I am providing herewith a 6-month periodic report prepared by my Administration on the national emergency with respect to Sierra Leone and Liberia that was declared in Executive Order 13194 of January 18, 2001, and expanded in scope in Executive Order 13213 of May 22, 2001.

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, July 22, 2002.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 4:31 p.m. a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1209) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to determine whether an alien is a child, for purposes of classification as an immediate relative, based on the age of the alien on the date the classification petition with respect to the alien is filed, and for other purposes.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 4687. An act to provide for the establishment of investigative teams to assess building performance and emergency response and evacuation procedures in the wake of any building failure that has resulted in substantial loss of life or that posed significant potential of substantial loss of life.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated: